

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are currently amended.

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and for clarity.

Support for the amendment is found in the claims and the specification, as originally filed.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-17 will be active.

No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

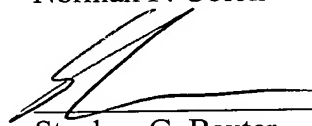
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)



Stephen G. Baxter  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 32,884